

It is through the exceptional effort of companies such as Shucks Maine Lobster that Maine's seafood industry has garnered its world renowned reputation for premium quality products. The worldwide acclaim Shucks Maine Lobster continues to receive at international food shows and chef competitions adds to the long tradition of Maine's superior seafood. Their well-deserved accolades also promote Maine as a brand. By producing such a delicious and more user-friendly way to enjoy Maine's fresh lobster, Shucks introduces and expands to new markets and furthers the positive reputation of all Maine seafood.

The creativity, dedication, and can-do spirit, so characteristic of Maine entrepreneurs, can be seen at Shucks Maine Lobster in abundance. From a small lobster shack in Kennebunkport to a leader in the frozen lobster industry, Shucks has seen both the challenges and rewards of seeing an opportunity and sailing towards it. I commend Shucks Maine Lobster for all their success and wish them well in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE HOWARD A. DAWSON, JR.

● Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Howard A. Dawson, Jr., a native son of the State of Arkansas, and his lifetime of exemplary service to our Nation.

On August 21, 2012, Judge Dawson will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his appointment to the U.S. Tax Court. He is the longest serving judge in the history of the court, and one of only four Federal judges appointed by President Kennedy who continue to serve on the bench today. His longevity is remarkable, but his achievements are even more so.

Judge Dawson hails from Okolona, AR, and comes from a long line of educators—parents, uncles, and grandparents—who made their mark in Arkansas as teachers, school superintendents, and State Education Department officials.

Judge Dawson's earliest Federal service had some ups and downs. Senator Hattie Caraway—the first woman Senator from Arkansas and the first woman in the country elected to serve a full term as a Senator—facilitated his appointment as an elevator operator in what is now the Russell Senate Office Building. Since then, however, Judge Dawson's career has been "all ups."

As a young captain in the U.S. Army in World War II, Judge Dawson served in France and Germany. After graduation from law school in 1949 and a brief stint in private practice, Judge Dawson joined the Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel and held a series of increasingly responsible positions, rising to assistant chief counsel, administration, at the time of his appointment to the Tax Court bench in 1962.

At the court in the late 1960s, Judge Dawson worked with his mentor, fellow Arkansan, and chairman of the powerful House Committee on Ways and Means, Congressman Wilbur D. Mills, to help shape legislation that reformed the Tax Code and the U.S. Tax Court. Judge Dawson also worked to establish the small tax case procedure, which has made the arcane world of tax litigation accessible to self-represented taxpayers, and he became the first judge in charge of the small tax case division.

During his five decades of service to the Tax Court, Judge Dawson's colleagues have three times chosen him as their chief judge. His work ethic is legendary, and he has authored some 1,200 opinions. But his contributions go far beyond his legal opinions, for with kindness, patience, and humor he has made his mark on the lives and careers of many at the court as colleague, mentor, and friend.

Judge Dawson has been supported in this work by his wife of more than 66 years, Marianne Dawson. Judge Dawson exemplifies the very best qualities of both a jurist and a public servant, and it is with great pleasure that I rise to salute him today.●

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE HOWARD A. DAWSON, JR.

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the longest serving judge in the history of the U.S. Tax Court—Judge Howard A. Dawson, Jr.—who will mark his 50th year as a Federal judge on August 21, 2012.

Judge Dawson, a native of Okolona, AR, comes from a family of Arkansas educators. Because of his groundbreaking work to unify many rural schools in Arkansas, Judge Dawson's father was dubbed "Dr. Rural Education." That reputation earned Judge Dawson's father a position within the Department of Interior and the family relocated to Washington, DC.

Judge Dawson started his Federal service right here at the U.S. Capitol complex. A fellow Arkansan, Hattie Caraway—the first woman to win election to the U.S. Senate—helped Judge Dawson get a job as an elevator operator in what is now the Russell Senate Office Building.

During World War II, Judge Dawson served as a captain in the U.S. Army, where he was stationed in France and Germany. After the war, he earned his law degree at George Washington University School of Law. Judge Dawson eventually joined the Internal Revenue Service Office as chief of counsel after a brief time working in private practice. In 1962, Judge Dawson was appointed to the Tax Court bench by President John F. Kennedy.

Well respected among his peers, Judge Dawson was chosen to be chief judge three times during his five-decade tenure. He has authored over 1,200 opinions, but he is also known for contributions that extend beyond his legal writings.

As a judge, Dawson worked with fellow Arkansan, Wilbur Mills, to help shape the legislation that created today's U.S. Tax Court as an independent judicial body under article I of the Constitution.

In order to help self-represented taxpayers, Judge Dawson worked to establish the small tax case procedure to simplify and allow tax litigation to be more accessible. He became the first judge in charge of the small tax case division.

I would like to recognize Judge Howard A. Dawson, Jr., for his commendable service as a Federal judge. I am proud of his contribution to our Nation and to the Natural State.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5986. An act to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to extend the third-country fabric program and to add South Sudan to the list of countries eligible for designation under that Act, to make technical corrections to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States relating to the textile and apparel rules of origin for the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, to approve the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 679. An act to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation.

S. 1959. An act to require a report on the designation of the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization and for other purposes.

At 2:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 897. An act to provide authority and sanction for the granting and issuance of